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Chief of Station, Germany
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CARAVEL

Visits of Security Chief DREIA

ACTION: FYI

REFERENCE: RGFA-44374 (8 Feb 66)

1. One possibly interesting facet of current Algerian - West German relations in the account of two unofficial visits to West Germany by Algerian Chief of Security and member of the Revolutionary Council, (fnn) DREIA in early January and mid March 1967.

2. In January DREIA was being chaperoned by Hans RECHENBERG, who is well known to the Algiers Station. They visited several optical and, possibly, communications equipment firms. DREIA then went without RECHENBERG to visit the Chief of the Federal Criminal Police (see reference and related correspondence) in Wiesbaden. He was also scheduled for a Foreign Office approved dinner with former German ambassador to Algiers, WISCHNEVSKI (SPD), but begged off with an elaborate excuse because such a visit might be considered an official approach.

3. In his talk with the Federal Criminal Police Chief, which took place with the blessing of the Bonn Foreign Office, DREIA indicated that Algeria was seeking to hasten the re-establishment of diplomatic relations with West Germany through unofficial contacts because the government feared that Bonn's increased preoccupation and rapprochement with Russia and the Soviet Orbit in general would reduce West German interest in the Arab states and relegate them to second class status as far as financial and other support is concerned. (The exchange of views on police matters was uninteresting. There have not been any deliveries of, or requests

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for, police equipment since the break, however, it was agreed in principle, that the West German police official, NITSCHKE, who had handled previous negotiations, would visit Algiers this summer.)

4. On his second visit, in mid-March 1967, DREIA had the Chief of the Algiers Criminal Police with him. He spent two or three days with CATUSE in Munich and again visited the Federal Criminal Police Chief in Wiesbaden. DREIA was even more open in saying that Algiers wants to make friends and less worried that Algiers' enemies might find out. This time he did accept a WISCHNEWSKI dinner invitation.

5. The German Foreign Office has told the Federal Criminal Police that it welcomes the opportunities for improving relations between Algeria and West Germany presented by the contacts between DREIA and the Federal Criminal Police.